

1695 E

H 49

Columbia University
in the City of New York

THE LIBRARIES



THE SELIGMAN LIBRARY OF ECONOMICS

PURCHASED BY THE UNIVERSITY

1942

Mr. HEWER's Reply

TO THE

Petition of the Tanger-Inhabitants.

Article I. **T**hat in the Years 85 and 86 there were granted me (as Treasurer for Tanger) two Privy Seals of 50000 l. each, for paying the Arrears due to the Petitioners and Garrison there, at the time of its demolishing.

Answer. 'Tis acknowledg'd.

Art. II. That I have receiv'd upon these Privy Seals 90000 l.

Answer. The Total receiv'd thereon is 72200 l. and no more; there resting unpaid of the same at this day 27800 l.

PROOF, A Constat from the Exchequer, under the Hand of Sir Robert Howard.

Art. III. That I did for 'a long time clandestinely keep from them, the knowledge both of the said Seals and Mony; making to my self in the mean time considerable profit of the same.

Answer. The little Truth, or possibility of any, in this Suggestion, appears;

1. From the diversity of the Publick Offices (accessible to all Enquirers) through which every Privy Seal, as well as Exchequer Payment, necessarily passes; to the rendring the concealment of either wholly impracticable.

PROOF, The known Number (no less then 6) and Methods of those Offices.

2. From their having had in constant Pay, a Messenger and Solicitors of their own appointment and Number, daily attending between the Treasury, the Exchequer, Themselves, and Me; for the looking after and advertizing them of every day's proceeding, relating to this Affair.

PROOF, Their own Hands.

3. From a Comparison easie to be made, of the Dates of my Receipts for Monies out of the Exchequer, and those of theirs upon their Payments from Me. Which will be found seldom distant 3 days, never 7; but on the contrary, the advancements of Mony on my side for the most part to precede by much greater distances, the actual Payments from the Exchequer to me.

PROOF, Sir Robert Howard's foremention'd Certificate; their own Original Acquittances; and my frequent Reports of both to the Lords of the Treasury.

Art. IV. That I have (besides my Salary from the King) taken from them upon every Payment, 12 d. poundage and 4 s. per l. Composition-Mony, amounting together to 25 per Cent. necessitating them to compound or sell me their Arrears upon my own Terms.

Answer. 1. That 12 d. per l. was by Their own joynt Order to Me in writing, stopt out of every of their Payments; to be disposed of by a distribution

bution of their own, among several *Persons* by themselves named (of whom *My Self* but one) in exprefs Requitall for a *Service*, nothing relating to my *Treasurership*, which they then own'd to have been done them in the collecting, examining, and adjusting, the numerous, perplex'd, and clamorous *Reckonings* and *Scores* depending at *Tanger*, at the time of its demolition, between *Them* and the *Military Officers* there. A Work of several *Months* continu'd Labour; and what for the *Moment* of it, they owe the Recovery of their whole *Estates* there entirely to. And for the acknowledgement thus made for it; as it was on *My* part neither desired nor expected, but came long after the *Service* was done; so was it done with so declared a Satisfaction on *Theirs*, as to have been afterwards by themselves not only frequently confirm'd; but in a *Representation* of their own, to the Lords of the *Treasury*, touching the Method of *My* then Payments to them (even with this *Defalcation*) reckon'd for no *Abatement*.

PROOF, The Originals of their said Order, Representation, and other Papers under their Hands.

2. That as to the 4 s. per l. the pretended *Composition-Money*; I have it to observe, that for so much of their *Debt*, as the Lords of the *Treasury* thought fit to enable me to discharge with *Money in specie*, the same was strictly made good to them as I received it, without the least *Defalcation*, other then that before mention'd. But when, upon the Lords becoming less satisfied herein, from some later Notices that toucht the general *Merit* of the *Petitioners* Claims, and their being thereby led to a *Backwardness* in further burthening the *King* with the Charge of *Extraordinary Interest* for raising Money for them, the *Petitioners* found themselves unable by any applications to obtain, for many *Months* together, any further Supplies; notwithstanding a *Proposition* they had long before made to their *Lordships*, of abating 6 per Cent. per *Annum* for two years, towards the easing his Majesty in that Charge. They became restless *Solicitors* to me, for the employing my *Credit* (with the aid of the *Allowance* they had so unsuccessfully offer'd to the Lords) for procuring them the advance of their Monys upon the *Fonds* I should next be supply'd with towards it. Which from my regard to the Condition of the *Petitioners*, and at the instance of the late Noble Lord, my Honoured Friend the Lord *Dartmouth*, their known Patron, I was prevail'd with to do; and did it with such effect, as by my own *Credit* alone, and *Friends*, to have raised them every *Penny* they have since receiv'd; and with it clear'd the whole of what either of *Right*, or by *Promise* in his Majesties Name from that Noble Lord, they then had, or now have to pretend to, payable by my hand, from the *King*. And this upon terms of *Abatement* so much beneath what is here suggested of 4 s. per l. and yet more, that of 25 per Cent. as not to have exceeded 2 s. per l. or 5 per Cent. Which is lower by 1 per Cent. than what themselves (as before) had offer'd to the Lords for the same *Service*, with no acceptance; and was not only received as an *Office* most grateful to them at the time of its *Transaction*, but has ever since with like *Thankfulness* been on all occasions acknowledged to me by them for such.

PROOF S, Their Proposition to the Lords, with other Evidences under their Hands, besides an Appeal to their own Memories.

Which being the Case of these two *Defalcations* (both of them by their own *Desires*, and both for their own *Service* only) I do, as *Treasurer*,
utter-

utterly Disclaim the having receiv'd from any of them the least *Consideration* in the Execution of my *Office*, other than the bare *Salary* allow'd me for it by the *King*. But so much the contrary, as out of a singularity of *Tendernefs* to the *Petitioners*, to have wholly remitted to them a Claim to *Poundage*, which Universal Practice through every Part of the *Publick Service*, both by *Land* and *Sea*, makes a Right of the *Treasurers*, upon all *Stopages* for Debts made by Consent for the Use of private *Creditors*.

And so much I value my self upon the *Sincerity* of my Proceedings past, and the *Truth* of all my present *Allegations* herein, as to be ready to repay *Ten-Fold*, for every *Penny* I shall upon Proof be found to have directly or indirectly, by my self or others, taken or receiv'd, from any one of the *Petitioners*, upon any Account whatever, beyond what I here declare.

Art. V. *That through my unjust Dealings, many of these Inhabitants have perish'd, and some of them in Goal.*

Ans. How far this may in *Fact* be true, I know not. But this I know; that as this is the first time of my ever meeting with it; so is it not (be it true) to be charg'd upon the want of any thing within my Cognizance due to them from the *King*, or within my own power to have been otherwise helpful to them in. Witness the *Many* of them, whom I have succour'd, both by my private Charity and other good Offices; And *Some*, who at this very day owe their *Freedom* to my only *Forbearance* of them, for Monies due and unsatisfied, which in their *Distresses* I have supply'd them with, upon *None* or at most upon *Common Interest*.

PROOF, Their own Memories, or (that failing) other Evidence ready to be shew them under their Hands.

Art. VI. *That I have 20000 l. upon these Privy Seals at this Day Resting in my Hands.*

Ans. So far is it from my being *Debtor*, either in this or any other Sum upon these *Seals*; that every *Penny* of *Money* I have pay'd to the People of this Place since *Midsummer* 1688. (which is now little short of 7 Years) has been out of my own *Purse*, to near 3000 l. more than ever I received thereon. And this, without a Farthing of it *Reimbursed*, or any *Fond* yet supply'd me for securing its *Reimbursement*, to this Day.

PROOF, My several Reports of the State of my Receipts and Payments to the Lords of the Treasury; with the general and particular State thereof accompanying this.

Art. VII. *They therefore Pray, That I may be obliged to Account for the said Monies.*

Ans. An Account goes herewith of every Sum, great and small, by me Receiv'd and Pay'd upon each of these *Privy Seals*; shewing the *Value* of each Sum, the distinct *Day* of each *Receipt* and *Payment*, the particular *Hand* from or to which the same has been so Received or Pay'd, and on what *Account*.

PROOF, The Exchequer-Constat for my Receipts, and Original Acquittances for my Payments.

Art.

Seligman
1615E
H49

Art. VIII. *And that I may Pay them their just Due.*

Ans^r. The Gross of their *Debt* from his *Majesty*, payable by *Me*, was cleared within the *Year* 1687, and the small *Remainders* thereof, since. So as to have left no one *Penny* of this their *Tanger-Debt* (to which alone his *Majesty* stood Intitled by any Promise of the Lord *Dartmouth's*) unsatisfied to any one *Inhabitant* of them (within my Notice) for full 6 Years past.

PROOF, The foremention'd Accounts and Reports, with their own Original Acquittances.

Which having said, and therein valued my self upon no *Private Assertions* of my own, or even my *Oath* (which yet, if required, I am ready to give) for the Truth of any Particular; but upon *Evidences*, either wholly incontestable, or such as the *Petitioners* themselves are most concern'd to support the *Credit* of; I take Liberty only of subjoyning this one *Appeal* for the *Whole*, to the Right Honourable the *Lords* of the *Treasury*, before whom this *Matter* has wholly lain. **Whether** within the Ten entire Years of its *Negotiation*, any one Word of *Complaint*, or *Exception* thereto, has ever come before their *Lordships*; from whose Hands, and under the Protection of the *Noble Lord* before Named then Living, they could not have wanted a quick *Relief*; without needing to have Exposed, either *Themselves* to the *Consequences* of so many Years *Want* of it, if Due: Or *Me* (if otherwise) to the *Disappointments*, which such an *Interval* might have brought upon any *Accomptant*, less Fortunate in the Order and Preservation of his *Papers*, than on this Occasion it has been my good *Hap* to be.

and from whence it comes at this *Distance* to be now first raised by them, will receive a *Satisfactory Opening*, so soon as by this my *Answer* and its *Proofs*, I shall have acquitted my Self as I ought, to the *Contents* of their *Petition*.

Reply to y^e
 Petition of Tang. Inhabit^{rs}